



## Desert Shadows Middle School - PTO Meeting Minutes – 03/24/2025

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm, participants 8 in person + 2 online

### 1. Welcome

2. **Voting Items:** Motion to approve February meeting minutes - Motion Passed.

### 3. **President's Report** (Kristina Brown)

As we roll in the end of the school year, the big thing is future planning. We have had many volunteers this year. Thank you to all the volunteers for giving their time and support to DSMS. We could not have done it without you. If you have any interest in getting more involved in the PTO next school year, please reach out to [president@sidewinderpto.com](mailto:president@sidewinderpto.com). We are starting to fill Committee positions for the 2025-2026 school year and currently have openings for our Business Sponsors and Passive Fundraiser positions OR do you have a skill or special talents we can utilize to better DSMS? If so, please let us know. We will vote for the candidates in the April meeting.

### 4. **Treasurer's Report** (Gardenia Flores)

- Not that many changes. Mainly in the Classroom supplies for teachers and incoming dollars from fundraising. There are still some expenses coming up for the Spring Dance and Teacher Appreciation Week and buses for trips.
- The goal of the PTO is to raise money to spend money with enough to roll over for the next year. So far we are on track.

### 5. **Fundraising Report**

- We have raised a little bit of extra money from all the fundraising this year. It has been a solid fundraising. However we might still need to use a company such as Step It Up to help us with fundraising. PTO wants to raise 50K per year. When we do additional fundraising we get from our network and not only from the families. Almost 80% of people that gave this year were from our network and not directly from families. We still might have a couple more years to use a third party company for the fundraising. At this point no decision has been made.
- For next year we want to increase spirit wear sales and business sponsorships.

### 6. **Communications & Social Media** (Kristin Stauffer)

- We are posting very often and keeping current events shared. We will continue posting about things at the beginning of the school year such as Sidewinder

Camp for incoming 7th graders, Walk Through of the school and Direct Giving donation campaign.

- We are also creating a new Facebook account that will make it easier to streamline social media posts.

#### 7. **Volunteer Report** (Sarah Cole)

- We need one more volunteer to sign up for weekly Pizza delivery to school for Friday May 7th for students' reward. You can find the sign up online on our [PTO website](#) or send an email to [sidewindervolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sidewindervolunteers@gmail.com).
- We are still in need of 8 to 10 more volunteers (adults or high school students) for the Spring Dance this Friday, this is the [sign up](#).
- For Teacher Appreciation week in May, we will need either donations or volunteers to help.
- Sometime in May I will work on an updated list of volunteers for next year.
- I would like to propose doing a Thank you Breakfast celebration for our volunteers this year. Yes, it is approved and we'll send a save the date and invitations for Friday May 9th.

#### 8. **Events**

We are 4 days away from the Spring Dance. Thank you Alana for doing such a great job. Friday, March 28th, from 6:00pm - 8:00pm (gates open at 5:30pm). The theme is GLOW the Night Away. That means wear white or neon. It is FREE to get in, but we are asking that each student brings 1-5 cans of food / pantry items to donate to Harvest Compassion Center, a local food bank. Entry includes DJ, photo booth, game zone, raffle prizes. Bring an additional \$10 - \$20 for Chick-fil-a dinner and Kona Ice; NJHS will be selling sodas, snacks, and candy.

#### 9. **Hospitality**

- Tuesday 3/25 is the last professional development lunch for teachers. (pizza, salad bar and drinks).
- Teacher Appreciation week is May 5-9. There will be something every day that week for teachers. Sarah and Cindy are doing a great job organizing it.
- There will also be a breakfast for teachers on the last day of school.
- PTO also provides a Back to School Welcome breakfast for teachers in August.

#### 10. **Teachers' Report**

- Teachers are getting ready for state testing. 3rd quarter grades were finished and posted last week.
- Community Service hours are due on May 9th.

## 11. Principal's Report (Ms Knaeble)

- Tomorrow is the first day of testing for 8th grade (Science). I shared in a previous email the updated calendar of testing.

AASA Testing Schedule March/April 2025				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24	25	26	27	28
	Early Release 8th Grade AZSci			
31	1	2	3	4
			Writing Test Block E	Writing Test Block F
7	8	9	10	11
Writing Test Block A & C	Writing Test Block B & D			
14	15	16	17	18
Reading and Math Part 1 ELA Blocks A, C, & E Math Block B, D, & F	Reading and Math Part 1 Math Block A, C, & E ELA Block B, D, & F	Reading and Math Part 2 ELA Blocks A, C, & E Math Block B, D, & F	Reading and Math Part 2 Math Block A, C, & E ELA Block B, D, & F	No School

- Permission slips and payments are due for 7th and 8th end of the year field trips. PTO will pay for the cost of one bus this year. We'll create a line in next year's budget.
  - Castles and Coasters 7th Grade (May 1)
  - Hurricane Harbor 8th Grade (May 21).
- Our admin assistant is not returning. Lynn has been wonderful at helping and filling this year and will continue next year. We are also hiring for back office support and we have one English teacher position open.
- The band's trip to California just came back. It was a wonderful experience to see our students work with Disney and learn how to create music for a movie scene.
- End of the year PBIS prizes. What ideas/suggestions does PTO have that students will like?. Assortment of gift cards from several vendors. Prizes to be given weekly until the end of the school year.
- We need an incoming 7th grader parent for school council representative (2 year term).

## **12. UPC Report**

- This Wednesday is the general meeting. PTOs and PTAs will talk about how parents can celebrate teachers and staff.
- Final candidates for Superintendent
- Nominations for Volunteer Award are March 26th to April 12th
- Appreciation Day for Instructional Assistants is May 2nd.
- There is a call for a Science committee K-12.
- There is a new Emerging Technology Committee for parents.
- HS Horizon is hosting Stephanie Siete on April 1st at 6:30 on how smartphones impact the teen brain.
- Accepting donations for PROM (dresses, suits, shoes, accessories).
- The next closing bell will be with the new superintendent.

## **13. Additional Items discussed**

Suggestion of an additional PT

O position for next year. Social Media Feeder. Great idea, we will definitely consider it.

### **Questions:**

Clap Out for 8th grade. It will happen on the last day of school 15 minutes before release. Balloons to cheer and band possibly accompanying 8th graders in the clap out. Parking will be difficult since DS Elementary also has a graduation event at the same time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm

**Next PTO Meeting Monday April 28th at 5:30pm.**

**Sidewinder PTO FY 2024**  
**Income and Expense Compared to Annual Budget**  
06/01/2024 - 05/31/2025

<b>Starting balance as of 06/01/2024</b>								<b>\$12,749.79</b>
	<b>Actual Income</b>	<b>Budgeted Income</b>	<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>Actual Net</b>	<b>Budget Net</b>	<b>More/- Less</b>	
<b>Donations Campaigns</b>								
Direct Giving	\$27,239.44	\$23,500.00	-	-	\$27,239.44	\$23,500.00	\$3,739.44	
Step It UP	\$22,609.17	\$20,000.00	-\$3,349.18	-	\$19,259.99	\$20,000.00	-\$740.01	
<b>Donations Campaigns Totals</b>	<b>\$49,848.61</b>	<b>\$43,500.00</b>	<b>-\$3,349.18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$46,499.43</b>	<b>\$43,500.00</b>	<b>\$2,999.43</b>	
<b>Sponsorship Campaign</b>								
Sponsorship	\$2,173.74	\$5,000.00	-	-	\$2,173.74	\$5,000.00	-\$2,826.26	
<b>Sponsorship Campaign Totals</b>	<b>\$2,173.74</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$2,173.74</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>-\$2,826.26</b>	
<b>Consumer Incentives</b>								
Box Tops for Education	\$174.30	\$100.00	-	-	\$174.30	\$100.00	\$74.30	
Fry's / Kroger	\$393.25	\$200.00	-	-	\$393.25	\$200.00	\$193.25	
<b>Consumer Incentives Totals</b>	<b>\$567.55</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$567.55</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$267.55</b>	
<b>Fundraising</b>								
DSMS T-Shirt Sales	-	\$1,000.00	-	-	-	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	
Restaurant Nights	\$1,165.33	\$1,000.00	-	-	\$1,165.33	\$1,000.00	\$165.33	
Vendors	\$780.80	\$1,000.00	-	-	\$780.80	\$1,000.00	-\$219.20	
Kendra Scott	\$368.93	\$300.00	-	-	\$368.93	\$300.00	\$68.93	
<b>Fundraising Totals</b>	<b>\$2,315.06</b>	<b>\$3,300.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$2,315.06</b>	<b>\$3,300.00</b>	<b>-\$984.94</b>	
<b>Principal Discretionary Account</b>								
Coca Cola Refreshments Rebate	\$117.73	\$150.00	-	-	\$117.73	\$150.00	-\$32.27	
School Portraits Rebate	\$828.81	\$1,050.00	-	-	\$828.81	\$1,050.00	-\$221.19	
Principal's Choice	-	-	-\$2,634.72	-\$10,500.00	-\$2,634.72	-\$10,500.00	\$7,865.28	
PTO Teacher Award Donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Principal Discretionary Account Totals</b>	<b>\$946.54</b>	<b>\$1,200.00</b>	<b>-\$2,634.72</b>	<b>-\$10,500.00</b>	<b>-\$1,688.18</b>	<b>-\$9,300.00</b>	<b>\$7,611.82</b>	
<b>Administrative Costs</b>								
Accounting Software	-	-	-\$207.02	-\$225.00	-\$207.02	-\$225.00	\$17.98	
Bank Fees	-	-	-\$31.45	-\$50.00	-\$31.45	-\$50.00	\$18.55	
Insurance	-	-	-\$95.00	-\$300.00	-\$95.00	-\$300.00	\$205.00	
Misc Admin	-	-	-\$472.34	-\$100.00	-\$472.34	-\$100.00	-\$372.34	
UPC Membership	-	-	-\$75.00	-\$75.00	-\$75.00	-\$75.00	-	
Virtual Meetings (Zoom)	-	-	-\$159.90	-\$150.00	-\$159.90	-\$150.00	-\$9.90	
Website / Email Hosting (GoDaddy)	-	-	-\$451.84	-\$300.00	-\$451.84	-\$300.00	-\$151.84	
Earned Interest	\$156.77	-	-	-	\$156.77	-	\$156.77	

	Actual Income	Budgeted Income	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Net	Budget Net	More/- Less
<b>Administrative Costs</b>							
<b>Administrative Costs Totals</b>	\$156.77	-	-\$1,492.55	-\$1,200.00	-\$1,335.78	-\$1,200.00	-\$135.78
<b>Hospitality</b>							
Teacher Meals	-	-	-\$2,351.24	-\$6,000.00	-\$2,351.24	-\$6,000.00	\$3,648.76
Teacher Lounge Supplies	-	-	-\$248.88	-\$550.00	-\$248.88	-\$550.00	\$301.12
Staff Meeting Breakfast	-	-	-\$704.32	-\$1,500.00	-\$704.32	-\$1,500.00	\$795.68
<b>Hospitality Totals</b>	-	-	-\$3,304.44	-\$8,050.00	-\$3,304.44	-\$8,050.00	\$4,745.56
<b>School Support</b>							
Gifts to School	-	-	-	-\$2,000.00	-	-\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>School Support Totals</b>	-	-	-	-\$2,000.00	-	-\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Student Support</b>							
PBIS	-	-	-\$447.48	-\$1,000.00	-\$447.48	-\$1,000.00	\$552.52
Clubs / Competitions / Team Celebrations	\$510.43	-	-\$586.07	-\$300.00	-\$75.64	-\$300.00	\$224.36
Student Awards / Rewards	-	-	-\$291.26	-\$1,400.00	-\$291.26	-\$1,400.00	\$1,108.74
Departmental Honors Award Students	-	-	-\$75.00	-\$300.00	-\$75.00	-\$300.00	\$225.00
<b>Student Support Totals</b>	\$510.43	-	-\$1,399.81	-\$3,000.00	-\$889.38	-\$3,000.00	\$2,110.62
<b>Teacher Support</b>							
Classroom Supplies	-	-	-\$4,676.26	-\$7,000.00	-\$4,676.26	-\$7,000.00	\$2,323.74
Staff Recognition and Support	-	-	-	-\$500.00	-	-\$500.00	\$500.00
Departmental Honors Award Teachers	-	-	-	-\$1,400.00	-	-\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Teacher Gifts	-	-	-\$3,157.17	-\$6,000.00	-\$3,157.17	-\$6,000.00	\$2,842.83
<b>Teacher Support Totals</b>	-	-	-\$7,833.43	-\$14,900.00	-\$7,833.43	-\$14,900.00	\$7,066.57
<b>Community Support</b>							
Charitable Donations	-	-	-\$206.95	-\$650.00	-\$206.95	-\$650.00	\$443.05
<b>Community Support Totals</b>	-	-	-\$206.95	-\$650.00	-\$206.95	-\$650.00	\$443.05
<b>PTO Sponsored Events</b>							
Fall Dance	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	-\$2,146.82	-\$2,500.00	\$353.18	-	\$353.18
Spring Dance	-	\$3,000.00	-	-\$2,500.00	-	\$500.00	-\$500.00
DSMS 50TH Birthday	\$2,492.31	-	-\$6,577.59	-\$7,000.00	-\$4,085.28	-\$7,000.00	\$2,914.72
<b>PTO Sponsored Events Totals</b>	\$4,992.31	\$5,500.00	-\$8,724.41	-\$12,000.00	-\$3,732.10	-\$6,500.00	\$2,767.90
<b>Ear Marked Account</b>							
Choir Funds	\$4,672.00	-	-\$4,107.10	-	\$564.90	-	\$564.90
8th Grade Party	-	-	-	-\$6,500.00	-	-\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
Petty Cash	\$1,000.00	-	-\$1,300.00	-	-\$300.00	-	-\$300.00
<b>Ear Marked Account Totals</b>	\$5,672.00	-	-\$5,407.10	-\$6,500.00	\$264.90	-\$6,500.00	\$6,764.90